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Date: June 12, 2006



Eric Schneider

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of:

Applicant: Eric Schneider

Examiner: Moustafa Meky

Serial No: 10/604,626

Art Unit: 2157

Filing Date: August 5, 2003

Title: Method, product, and apparatus for resource identifier registration and aftermarket services

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT B

Dear Sir:

In response to Examiner telephone discussion June 8, 2006, please amend the above application as follows:

In the Specification

Please amend Paragraph 40 to read:

--To date, navigation services, search services, primary market services such as identifier availability services, WHOIS services, and identifier registration services, and secondary market services also known as aftermarket services such as identifier monitoring and back-order services, identifier listing services for auction, appraisal, rent, sale, or lease and the like have remained separate services. Additional advantages can be obtained by integrating these separate services into a unified service. Accordingly, in light of the above, there is a strong need in the art for integrating these services with a method, product, and apparatus for resource identifier registration and aftermarket services.--

In the Claims:

Claims 1-11 (canceled)

Claim 12 (currently amended): A network request method comprising:

receiving a network request to process input including a resource identifier, wherein said network request is one of a resource location request, search engine request, and primary market request, said primary market request including one of a resource identifier registration request, WHOIS request, and resource identifier availability request;

determining ~~that~~ whether said resource identifier is unavailable for registration;

providing a user with an interface to one of a perform ~~a~~ at least one resource identifier aftermarket request and one of an access and display aftermarket status of said resource identifier through one or more resource identifier aftermarket services in response to said determining that said resource identifier is unavailable for registration, wherein said aftermarket status is indicative of whether said resource identifier is available for back-order, sale, license, or lease by one of a listing service, auction service, and registrant of said resource identifier and wherein said aftermarket request is at least one of a back-order request, auction request, bid request, appraisal request, ~~registrar~~ transfer of ownership request, escrow request, offer request, aftermarket listing request, and identifier aftermarket status monitoring and notification request; ~~and expiry time remaining request;~~ and,

performing said network request at any time after said receiving said network request independent of said providing said user with said interface to said one of a perform said at least one said resource identifier aftermarket request and one of said access and display said aftermarket status of said resource identifier through said one or more resource identifier aftermarket services.

Claim 13 (previously presented): A method, as set forth in claim 12, further including inputting said resource identifier from a user interface element.

Claim 14 (previously presented): A method, as set forth in claim 13, wherein said inputting said resource identifier from a user interface element includes inputting said resource identifier into one of a one of a browser location field, text box object, command line, speech to text interface, optical recognition interface, and magnetic recognition interface.

Claim 15 (currently amended): A method, as set forth in claim 12, further including one of a performing said resource identifier aftermarket request and automatically performing said resource identifier

aftermarket request.

Claim 16 (currently amended): A method, as set forth in claim 12, wherein said providing said user with said interface includes providing results of said performing said network request as part of said interface.
~~a user with an interface in response to determining that said resource identifier is unavailable for registration.~~

Claim 17 (previously presented): A method, as set forth in claim 12, wherein said providing said user with said interface includes automatically providing said user with said interface in response to said receiving said network request to process said input.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A method, as set forth in claim 12, wherein said resource identifier is one of a domain name, fictitious domain name, telephone number, and keyword. ~~said receiving said network request to process said input includes receiving one of a resource location request, search engine request, resource identifier registration request, and resource identifier availability request.~~

Claim 19 (currently amended): A network request method comprising:

receiving a network request to process input including a resource identifier;

determining ~~that~~ whether said resource identifier is unavailable for registration;

determining whether the resource identifier is back-ordered in response to said determining that said resource identifier is unavailable for registration; ~~wherein a registrant of said back-ordered resource identifier can automatically register or compete to register the resource identifier when the resource identifier is no longer unavailable for registration;~~

. a registration back-order service providing a back-order registration form to a user upon said determining that the resource identifier is not back-ordered, wherein said registration back-order service can automatically register or compete to register the resource identifier on behalf of said user when the resource identifier is available for registration;

determining whether to notify ~~a~~ said user when the resource identifier is no longer back-ordered or will no longer be back-ordered upon said determining that the resource identifier is back-ordered; and,

performing said network request at any time after said receiving said network request independent of said determining whether the resource identifier is back-ordered.

Claim 20 (previously presented): A method, as set forth in claim 19, further including retrieving a back-order registration record upon said determining that the resource identifier is back-ordered.

Claim 21 (previously presented): A method, as set forth in claim 19, further including adding the resource identifier to a back-order watch list of said user when it is determined to notify said user when the resource identifier is not back-ordered.

Claim 22 (currently amended): A method, as set forth in claim 19, wherein said receiving said network request to process said input includes receiving one of a resource location request, search engine request, resource identifier registration request, WHOIS request, and resource identifier availability request.

Claim 23 (previously presented): A method, as set forth in claim 19, wherein said determining whether the resource identifier is back-ordered includes determining from a back-order registry whether the resource identifier is back-ordered in response to determining that said resource identifier is unavailable for registration.

Claim 24 (new): A method, as set forth in claim 19, wherein said resource identifier is one of a domain name, fictitious domain name, telephone number, and keyword.

REMARKS

Applicant has added claim 24 and amended claims 12, 15, 16, 18, 19, and 22 to better encompass the full scope and breadth of the invention.

Notes Regarding Amended Independent Claim 12

Aftermarket services can only exist for identifiers that are owned and unavailable for registration. Distinction has been drawn between primary market services such as registration requests, availability requests including WHOIS requests and secondary market services also known as aftermarket services such as back-order requests, listings of identifiers for sale, license, lease, auction and the like.

Applicant Prior Patents that are Relevant

Applicant has taught in previously issued patents to Schneider (U.S. Pat. No. 6,338,082 and U.S. Pat. No. 6,678,717) response technology regarding performing domain name availability requests. For instance, review of Claim 1 in U.S. Pat. No. 6,973,505 to Schneider teaches how a domain name availability request can be performed while or in response to requesting content from a network resource. Present invention of Applicant *teaches similar response technology but instead for performing aftermarket requests while or in response to processing other user initiated requests.*

Furthermore Applicant had first introduced pre-registering or back-ordering identifiers and identifier expiration monitoring in Claim 1 in U.S. Pat. No. 6,449,549 to Schneider filed November 15, 1999. Also see U.S. Pat. No. 6,895,430 to Schneider filed June 21, 2000 (col. 21 lns. 49-56) *which discloses integrating aftermarket status information as part of WHOIS search results* and (col. 19 lns. 47-53 and lns. 62-67) *which discloses integrating aftermarket status information as part of search engine results* as well.

The present application and pending claims 12-24, as amended, are believed to be in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to issue a formal Notice of Allowance directed to claims 12-24, inclusive.

Respectfully submitted,



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